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(54) Title: OPEN-CELL FOAM AND METHOD OF MAKING	22) International Billing Date: 15 March 1999  130) Priority Data: 60073,091 16 March 1998 (16.03.98)  171) Applicant (for all designated States except US): To CHEMICAL COMPANY [US/US]: 2090 Dow Ce land, M. 48676 (US).  122) Inventors; and States (for US only): PARK, US/US/US/US/US/US/US/US/US/US/US/US/US/U	HE DO nter, Mi Chung, den (DI anderme, Bharut, 584 (US	BY, CA, CH, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE GH, GM, HR, HU, DI, LN, IS, JP, KE, KO, KP, KR GE, KL, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, TR, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SS, SI, TI, TM, TR, 'TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARRO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SI), SI, SZ, CU, ZW), Burasina patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TI, TM), European patent (AT, BE, Cit, Cy, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, TI, LU, MC, NL, FT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BI, CF, CO, CI, CM, GA, CN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  Published With international search report.  Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(57) Abstract

An open-cell polystyrene foam is provided which is formed from a blend of polystyrene and an ethylene-styrene interpolymer. The ethylene-styrene interpolymer functions as a cell opening agent, and is used to control the open cell content of the resulting foam, which may contain greater than 80 percent open cells. The foam is produced by an extrusion process in which carbon dioxide is used as the preferred blowing agent. The resulting foams may be formed into beads, plank, round, sheets, etc.